

# The Times and Register.

Vol. XXVI. No. 13.

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 1, 1893.

Whole No. 760.

| ORIGINAL ARTICLE:   |  | PAGE | NEWS AND MISCELLANY:  |  | PAGE |
|---|--|------|---|--|------|
| A New Treatment for Pertussis. <i>By Sidney B. Straley</i> .....                  |  | 273  | A Curiosity in Prescriptions.....   |  | 284  |
| <b>BUREAU OF INFORMATION:</b>   |  |      | Non-Political Health Officers.....  |  | 284  |
| Medical Matters in Reading. <i>F. W. Frankhouser, M. D.</i> .....                 |  | 274  | Phonograph Monkey Talk.....   |  | 284  |
| Correction.....   |  | 275  | An Act to Prevent the Spread of Tuberculosis Among Domestic Animals.....  |  | 285  |
| How Much Kerosene Can a Child Swallow Without Injury. <i>J. C. McMillan</i> ..... |  | 275  | <b>THE MEDICAL DIGEST:</b>  |  |      |
| <b>EDITORIAL:</b>   |  |      | On the Mode of Administering Tar. <i>Wm. Murrel, M. D.</i> .....  |  | 285  |
| More Milk Legislation.....  |  | 276  | French Notes. <i>Translated by E. W. Bing, M. D.</i> .....  |  | 286  |
| Intestinal Antiseptics in Pneumonia.....  |  | 278  | German notes. <i>Translated by Dr. Ad. Meyer</i> .....  |  | 289  |
| The Family Physician Company, Limited.....  |  | 279  | Surgery or Electricity in Gynecology. <i>Women's Med. Jour.</i> .....   |  | 292  |
| <b>ANNOTATIONS:</b>   |  |      | Urethrectomy for Obstinate Stricture. <i>N. E. Med. Monthly</i> .....   |  | 292  |
| A Contribution to the Study of Bronchial Fistulae. <i>T. H. M.</i> .....          |  | 279  | Desquamative Enteritis. <i>Light</i> .....  |  | 293  |
| Bible Leprosy.....  |  | 280  | Tincture of Iron for Burns. <i>Atlanta M. &amp; S. Jour</i> .....   |  | 293  |
| Effect of Purgatives on Sucklings.....  |  | 280  | For Irritable Cough—For Psoriasis—Collodion for Gouty Joints—For Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema—A Valuable Counter Irritant in Diseases of the Chest. <i>The Practitioner</i> ..... |  | 294  |
| Bacteriological Study of Cholera in France. <i>T. H. M.</i> .....                 |  | 281  | On the Action of Apoline.....   |  | 294  |
| <b>BOOK NOTICES:</b>  |  |      | <b>NOTES AND ITEMS</b> ..... iv, xli  |  |      |
| Ophthalmic Case Book. <i>Fox and Holt</i> .....                                   |  | 281  |   |  |      |
| The Medical Annual and Practitioner's Index.....                                  |  | 281  |   |  |      |

## Original Articles.

### A NEW TREATMENT FOR PERTUSSIS.

By SIDNEY B. STRALEY.

**A** LONG the roadsides and in deserted fields, often even creeping into the silent "cities of the dead" grows from the shores of Maine to the southern boundary of Pennsylvania a little modest plant, unknown to many, yet destined, perhaps, to be sought after by thousands whose little ones need help, and rescue from the sufferings of pertussis.

The plant is a foreigner, coming to us from Europe and Southern Asia, but it has become naturalized in the section above named. The plant is suffruticose, prostrate, leaves from five to ten mm. long, flat, petiolated, ovate or roundish-lanceolate, entire, ciliate at the bases, smooth except for glands which occur on both sides. The flowers are purplish, situated on the ends of the branches, and have four stamens usually included. It chooses rocky or sandy locations by preference, where the soil is thin and uncultivated. The laity in Sussex County have long used a tea made from the green plant as a blood purifier during the spring months, and no cases of injury have ever resulted from its excessive use. This little obscure plant, named *thymus serpyllum*, has proven a specific to one of the most distressing diseases of childhood and in-

fancy, namely, pertussis. In a paper earlier in the year,\* reports of five typical cases were given, in which the *thymus serpyllum* was administered in the different stages of the disease, and with the single result of a cure in every case in five days. These cases occurred early in the spring of the present year, and since then the further use of the remedy has only confirmed the hopes which were at first entertained. In over a dozen cases treated, the disease was under control in two or three days and checked entirely in five days.

The profession in Sussex, at my request, has given the *thymus* a trial; and those who have reported have strengthened the proof of the specific power of the drug.

Dr. L. D. Miller, of Newton, N. J., reports three cases in one family, where he used the tincture made from the green plant, and found on his second visit the children so much improved that he made no further visits. In two other cases in his practice the tincture cut short the disease in five days. The dose of the green tincture for a child of eight years is from xx to xxx  $\mu$ . Dr. Miller, in reporting these cases, expressed his surprise at the quick and complete action of the remedy, saying he "would not have believed it possible to have such prompt action."

While the period of incubation and of cure is five days, yet it is advisable to continue the treatment for a few days

\**Thymus Serpyllum* in the treatment of Pertussis. Trans. of N. J. State Med. Soc., 1892.

after all the symptoms have subsided. The medicine has undoubtedly a specific action even more pronounced than quinia has in malaria, for in no subsequent cold following this treatment of pertussis, do we have whooping. The germ is utterly and totally destroyed, but whether the patient is susceptible to a subsequent attack my experience has been too limited to prove.

It may be possible that the thymol in the thymus has the specific action. The busy life of a country practitioner forbids extended experiments, but whatever principle produces the result, it is a deadly enemy to the pertussis germ, and will destroy it in any and every stage of the disease with equal facility.

While pertussis is in a strict sense not a fatal disease, yet thousands die annually from its ravages, and there has been no reliable remedy with which we could hope to battle successfully against the disease. It is with the greatest pleasure, therefore, that the author offers to the profession this specific, which his own trials, together with those of his colleagues of the Sussex Co. Medical Society, has proved to be the weapon royal with which to quiet and cure pertussis. H. O. Ryerson, druggist, of Newton, N. J., is the only source known to the writer where the tincture can be obtained pure and made from the fresh green plant.

In giving this remedy to the profession, do not understand it to be a specific for the complications of pertussis; it will only cure the original disease, but does lessen the chances of complications by its quick action.

Whether the pertussis will return if the patient subsequently runs the chance of infection, cannot now be definitely stated. The short time the thymus has been used would necessarily exclude proofs of this.

In experiments with this drug, dram doses have been given with no ill effect, except an occasional laxative discharge from the bowels. It has a sedative action on the nerves and stimulates the gastric functions, increasing the appetite and the digestive power of the stomach.

We, then, may conclude from the above:

*First.* Thymus serpyllum is a specific for pertussis.

*Second.* It acts in any stage of the disease.

*Third.* It also is a nerve sedative and gastric stimulant.

*Fourth.* It is necessary to use the green plant.

*Fifth.* It is perfectly harmless in doses as large as a teaspoonful of the tincture for a child of eight years.

*Sixth.* The action is fully established in twenty-four hours and completed in five days.

*Seventh* and lastly: indications are that there will be no recurrence subsequently, at least not more often than in cases which run the full course.

ANDOVER, N. J.

## Bureau of Information.

*Questions on all subjects relating to medicine will be received, assigned to the member of our staff best capable of advising in each case, and answered by mail.*

*When desired, the letters will be printed in the next issue of the Journal, and advice from our readers requested. The privileges of this Bureau are necessarily limited to our subscribers. Address all queries to*

Bureau of Information,

TIMES AND REGISTER,

1725 ARCH STREET,

Philadelphia, Pa.

## MEDICAL MATTERS IN READING.

THE Berks' County Medical Society held its monthly meeting, March 14th; it being a business meeting.

Dr. Weidman gave an address on the advantages of the medical examiner's bill, now before the houses of our State Legislature, and asked the members of the society to use their influence among members of the legislature, and get them to support the bill. The milk bill, as presented by some members of the legislature from Philadelphia, was not discussed, but laid on the table for next meeting, or possibly for an extra or special meeting which may be called.

Delegates were appointed to represent the society at the meeting of the State Medical Society at Williamsport, in May.

Delegates appointed were: Drs. Geo. Shenk, Daniel Longaker, S. C. Ermentrout, F. W. Frankhauser, James S. Keiser, S. L. Kurtz, D. B. Beaver, Dr. J. Potteiger of Hamburg and M. L. Ber-tolet of St. Lawrence.

SMALLPOX IN READING.—Reading is at present on the verge of a smallpox epi-

demic, thirty-seven cases having been reported.

It appears smallpox has been in Reading since February 2nd, but was not reported for over two weeks; in the meantime, the family was not quarantined until several families became afflicted. The Board of Health is about bringing suit against the doctor who did not report the case or cases properly. The Board of Health is doing all that is in its power to prevent the spreading of the disease; watchmen are being appointed to guard each house. All persons are requested to be vaccinated, ward physicians have been appointed to vaccinate the poor, the Board furnishing the virus, and paying twenty-five cents for each one that takes. The Board of School Controllers has ordered all children to be vaccinated. Business houses have requested their employees to be vaccinated. The Board of Health is about building a hospital for the treatment of smallpox.

The Reading and St. Joseph's Hospitals are vaccinating the poor free of charge, and all that can be done to isolate and quarantine the cases is being done.

Smallpox has existed all winter in the vicinity of Reading; the Board of Health has been trying to exercise its authority for five miles outside of the city limits, but, through somebody's carelessness, the disease has reached the city, and what the result will be no one can tell; but in the last few days a number of new cases have been reported.

Cases of skin disease of an eruptive character need to be very careful or they will find themselves in the hospital for smallpox. It has already been rumored that a bad case of *itch* had been reported and hurried to the Berks County almshouse, to be treated for smallpox. What next, no one knows, as one case of urticaria was also sent home from one of our large cigar factories, thinking it might be the dreaded disease.

The general health of the city is good.

F. W. FRANKHAUSER, M. D.

230 SOUTH SIXTH STREET.

#### CORRECTION.

IN the issue of January 11th, you made some statements as to the cost of the Y. M. C. A. rooms in our college that place us in a wrong light.

First, Mr. Woodruff *stated*, so he writes me at least, that we desired to raise \$1000. The room has cost, in round numbers, \$600.

The students have raised and paid \$200. We only ask the alumni to do as we have done.

Hoping you will make the correction, I am, Yours respectfully,

B. F. BRUBAKER,

Chairman of the Y. M. C. A. Building Committee.

[The statements referred to are in the report of the Alumni Association, and were printed as furnished to us by the Secretary.—Ed. T. & R.]

#### HOW MUCH KEROSENE CAN A CHILD SWALLOW WITHOUT INJURY.

I HAVE just read in THE TIMES AND REGISTER of a child who drank about two ounces of kerosene oil; which reminds me of a case occurring in my practice. In this case the child, a little girl of two years, swallowed at least an ounce each of kerosene and turpentine mixed. I did nothing at all, but told the mother to watch and wait for the poisonous symptoms which might follow. To my great surprise no bad symptoms followed this huge dose; and the child did not seem to suffer any inconvenience whatever from it.

J. C. McMILLAN.

MARION, S. C.

The Managers of the Seaside House for Invalid Women desire to invite the attention of clergymen and physicians to the advantages offered by the Mercer Memorial House, Atlantic City, to sick or overworked women, who need, and yet can ill-afford, a sojourn at the seashore. In it, a comfortably furnished private room, with board, nursing, medical treatment, and medicines, can be had for Four Dollars per week, or about one-half the actual cost. Circulars can be had by writing for them to the Mercer Memorial House, Ohio and Pacific Avenues, Atlantic City, N. J. No one is ever admitted without previous application. The house will be open in 1893, from March 23d, to about October 1st.

Board of Managers: President, William H. Bennett, M. D., 332 S. Fifteenth Street; Secretary, Miss Lilla S. Pechin, 243 S. Thirteenth Street; Treasurer, Frank K. Hipple, 1340 Chestnut Street.



# The Times and Register.

A Weekly Journal of Medicine and Surgery.

WILLIAM F. WAUGH, A. M., M. D.,

MANAGING EDITOR.

## EDITORIAL STAFF.

W. H. PANCOAST, M. D., Philadelphia.

W. F. HUTCHINSON, M. D., Providence.

W. R. D. BLACKWOOD, M. D., Philadelphia.

E. W. BING, M. D., Chester, Pa.

E. P. HURD, M. D., Newburyport, Mass.

MARY A. D. JONES, M. D., Brooklyn.

S. V. CLEVENGER, M. D., Chicago.

T. H. MANLEY, M. D., New York.

AD. MEYER, M. D., Chicago.

Published by the MEDICAL PRESS CO., Limited.

Address all communications to

1725 Arch Street, Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 1, 1893.

## MORE MILK LEGISLATION.

THE Markley milk bill is dead, but two new bills relating to cattle and their products have been introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature. One of these provides that an act passed in 1885, shall be so amended as to apply to the state generally. The official title of this measure is "*An Act to prevent the adulteration of, and the traffic in, impure and unwholesome milk, in cities of the second and third classes.*" The object expressed is most laudable; one with which every right minded citizen will most heartily sympathize; and if the provisions of the bill be such as its title would indicate, we would urge its passage. We will give the bill in full, and our readers may judge for themselves.

Section 1. "In cities of the second and third classes, whoever by himself or by his servant or agent, or as the servant or agent of any other person, sells, exchanges or delivers, or has in his custody or possession with intent to sell or exchange, or exposes or offers for sale or exchange, adulterated milk, or milk to

which water or any foreign substance has been added, or milk produced from cows fed upon any substance in a state of putrefaction, or from sick or diseased cows, shall, for such offense, be punished by a fine of not less than twenty, nor more than one hundred dollars."

To this we say, Amen. Excepting the absence of any clause respecting guilty knowledge, no possible objection can be made to it by any one who has the public interest at heart. It entails on the milk dealer an amount of care that he ought to take, for his own interests as well as the welfare of his customers.

Section 2. "Whoever, by himself or by his servant or agent or as the servant or agent of any other person, sells, exchanges or delivers, or has in his custody or possession, with intent to sell or exchange, or exposes or offers for sale as pure milk, any milk, from which the cream or any part thereof has been removed shall, for such offense, be punished by the penalty provided in the preceding section."

The objection to this section is in the use of the word "pure," where it is evident that "whole" or "entire" milk is meant. As it stands, this section might readily be construed as forbidding the sale of skim milk or buttermilk; as both may be termed "pure" milk.

Section 3. "No dealer in milk and no servant or agent of such a dealer, shall sell, exchange or deliver, or have in his custody or possession, with intent to sell, exchange or deliver, milk from which the cream or any part thereof has been removed, unless in a conspicuous place above the center upon the outside of every vessel, can, or package, from or in which such milk is sold the words 'skimmed milk' are distinctly painted in letters not less than one inch in length. Whoever violates the provisions of this

section shall, for such offense, be punished by the penalty provided in section one of this act."

Section 4. "If the milk mentioned in sections one and two of this act is shown, upon analysis, to contain more than eighty-seven and fifty one-hundredths per centum of watery fluid, and to contain less than twelve and fifty one-hundredths per centum of milk solids, and less fats than three per centum, and if the specific gravity at sixty degrees Fahrenheit, is not between one and twenty-nine one-thousandths to one and thirty-three one-thousandths, it shall be deemed to be adulterated."

This section could only have been elaborated by a person little familiar with the subject, for a milk of the proportions specified by these provisions does not exist. According to Hehner and Richmond a milk containing twelve and one-half per cent. total solids, with three per cent. fat, will have a specific gravity of  $1.035\frac{1}{2}$ . While there is a slight variability, it is insufficient to bring the specific gravity down to 1.033. To do this a much larger per cent. of fat and a lower per cent. of other solids is requisite. The section, therefore, as given, would allow such a limited amount of milk through the net, that it really legislates the milk business out of existence.

Section 5. "If the skimmed milk mentioned in section three of this act, is shown, upon analysis, to contain less than six per centum of cream by volume, and less than two and one-half per centum of fat by weight, and if the specific gravity at 60° Fahr., is not between 1.032 to 1.037, it shall be deemed to be adulterated."

This forbids the taking of more than one-sixth the cream or fat from milk, leaving five-sixths in the skim. Such a regulation is simply preposterous. It would not be worth while to skim milk

at all, in this way; and the provision is only another indirect attempt to prohibit entirely the sale of skim milk. For a diet in Bright's disease, and other affections for which skim milk is prescribed, such an article would be totally unsuited.

Section 6. "Whenever the inspector of milk has reasons to believe that any milk found by him is adulterated, he shall take specimens thereof, and test the same with such instrument or instruments as are used for such purpose, and if the result of such test indicates that the milk has been adulterated or deprived of its cream, or any part thereof, the same shall be *prima facie* evidence of such adulteration in prosecution under this act. If the said inspector shall deem it necessary he shall cause such milk to be analyzed, the result of which analysis he shall record and keep as evidence, and a certificate of such result sworn to by the analyzer shall be admissible in evidence in prosecution under this act. The expenses of such analysis, not exceeding fifteen dollars in any one case, may be included in the costs of such prosecutions."

This makes the lactometer, the instrument to which the section refers, the sole authority, its evidence being made "*prima facie*" at the discretion of the inspector. No one familiar with this and other instruments for testing milk, considers them absolute or reliable. Milk of undoubted purity may be condemned, and really adulterated milk approved, by the lactometer test. The objections to placing such reliance on instrumental tests of such a character is apparent on referring to the two remaining sections.

Section 7. "It shall be the duty of the inspector of milk to commence proceedings in the name of the Board of Health for any violations of the provisions of this act, from his own knowledge or on information of any person giving satisfactory evidence to him of such viola-

tions, before any mayor, deputy-mayor or alderman of said cities.

"The recovery of fines or penalties imposed and inflicted on any person by the provisions of this act, shall be for the use of said board of health, and upon non-payment of the fines or penalties imposed and inflicted as aforesaid, such person shall be committed to the county jail for a period not exceeding thirty days."

Section 8. "That in addition to the fines mentioned in the foregoing sections of this act, any person or persons violating the same shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine of not less than fifty, nor more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than ten, nor more than thirty days, or both or either at the discretion of the court."

The same objection applies to the last section as to the Markley bill, in that it provides criminal punishment for selling milk that is only technically "impure or adulterated." There is a misuse of these terms throughout both acts, that ought not to be allowed. Milk prohibited by the law because not of the legal standard is not, therefore, either impure or adulterated. It looks like a trick, to catch the support of the unthinking class, who are apt to seize on these words, without closer examination. A perfectly pure and wholesome milk, by this act may become legally "impure and adulterated."

In another department we give the text of the other bill, entitled: "*An Act to prevent the spread of tuberculosis among domestic animals.*"

In this bill there are several praiseworthy features: It does not create a horde of inspectors, responsible to the Lord knows who, empowered to roam about the State, confiscating cattle and dealing out fines and imprisonment at their own sweet will, but places the

whole matter where it properly belongs: under the control of the Bureau of Agriculture; a department of the State Government already established, and that has won the confidence of the public by its good work. To this Bureau is given full power to eradicate tuberculosis from the cattle in the state, and to punish wilful violations of the act, after conviction by due process of law. The eradication of tuberculosis requires the proper care, housing and feeding of cattle, and thus the proposed act accomplishes nearly all the good sought by the cumbrous and oppressive methods of the Markley bill. Judiciously enforced, it reduces the dangers of milk to the wilful adulterations; and these can be best prevented by municipal ordinances.

#### INTESTINAL ANTISEPSIS IN PNEUMONIA.

CROMBIE (*Ind. Med. Gazette*) recommends calcium chloride for pneumonia. He gives five to fifteen grains every four hours. He gives a list of twenty-two cases that ran a singularly mild course on this treatment. He also states that this salt puts an end to crops of hot-weather boils more surely than the sulphide.

There was in several cases a distinct extension of the pneumonic process to the other lung, while the patient was under the influence of the calcium salt, with recrudescence of the fever. He explains his success by the theory that as peptonuria is constant in pneumonia, the calcium may neutralize the toxic action of the peptones or albumoses circulating in the blood. But as this was insufficient to prevent the spread of pneumonia through the pulmonary tract, it appears more likely that the favorable results were due to intestinal antiseptics. This is in harmony with observations made by American physicians on the sulphocarbonate of zinc in pneumonia; the results



obtained being similar to those recorded by Crombie. It seems probable that, in the near future, it will be shown that in all essential fevers, when the normal secretion of the digestive ferments is interfered with, toxines develop in the intestinal canal whose absorption affects the body injuriously and renders the disease more serious. Evidence accumulates as to the value of intestinal antiseptics in all continued fevers; and the superiority of the sulphocarbolate over all other antiseptics for this use.

#### THE FAMILY PHYSICIAN COMPANY, LIMITED.

IN the universal condemnation poured out upon the Cincinnati scheme for supplying medical attendance at wholesale rates, one aspect of the question seems to have been overlooked. How does the scheme appear to the patient?

Cincinnati is an old city, and very poor. Its trade has drifted away to Louisville, St. Louis and Cincinnati. The growth of the great western cities has reduced the Ohio metropolis to a local center, and the conditions of life there are hard; even harder than in Philadelphia. How many Cincinnati firms advertise in the medical journals as compared with the cities named? She has an excellent weekly medical journal, well edited, its pages filled with material equal to any of the Eastern weeklies, worthily representing the profession of the Ohio valley. To the last number of this journal its native city contributes three advertisements: half a page each, for a medical college and a beer brewer, and a quarter page for a private hospital! If Cincinnati has any manufacturers or drug firms they ought to be ashamed of themselves. This is an unerring indication of the decay due to a lack of business energies, as well as to her unfortunate location, too far East and not far enough West. It is certain that the

effects of this condition of affairs are felt by all classes, and it is not, therefore, surprising that in Cincinnati there should arise a scheme for reducing the cost of illness to a fixed and minimum amount. And, however much the profession may declaim against it, the necessities that led to such a plan being devised will lead to its adoption. Like the Provident Dispensary in London, if the plan be in harmony with the needs of a time when pennies *must* be counted, it will force its way into favor.

#### Annotations.

##### A CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF BRONCHIAL FISTULÆ.

FISTULAS of Brochdalek's Canal.—

In the *Revue Medicale De La Suisse Romande*, Dr. F. Buscarlet contributes a valuable article on the above named subject. He divides bronchial cysts or bronchial fistulæ, from an anatomical standpoint into—

1st. *Pre-hyoidean*, those which are most superficial, as those in the mylo-hyoid muscle, consequently subcutaneous.

2d. *Supra-Hyoid*. Those which are lodged between the sheaths of the genio-hyoidian muscles.

3d. *Epi-Hyoid*. Those between the genio-hyo-glossus and other circumjacent muscles.

4th. *Intra-Hyoid*. Those in the concavity of the hyoid bone.

He remarks with Lannelongue that many of those which seemed but subcutaneous are deeply lodged. The structure of the congenital cysts, he maintains is *dermoid* and *muroid*. In twenty-four cases out of twenty-seven which he examined, cerebral substance was found in the debris of the cysts. On histological examination pavement and stratified epithelium was found; seven times hair; exceptionally glands and papillæ.

In the clinical study it is noted that they have been met with from birth up to sixty-seven years of age, rather more frequently in the male than the female. The most frequent site in the mouth is buccal or sublingual. When very vol-

uminous they may interfere with speech and deglutition. Luther's case is cited, in which one of those cystic tumors was opened which was lodged between the genio-glossus and adherent to the hyoid bone. In its contents sebaceous glands, hair and epithelium. Gruber, Gross and Marchand's remarkable cases are mentioned, in which the canals of the cysts were found to pursue a deep and most tortuous course on dissection.

Thyro-hyoid fistulæ are situated below the larynx and are attached to the hyoid bone, sometimes to the side of the mouth or the pharynx. Boyer met with one of these malformations, which opened between the thyro-hyoid muscle and membrane, and was quite interminable in its course. Malgaigne regarded these cysts as hygromas, Broca the elder regarded them of a pathogenic origin, arising from an in-growth and dilatation of a mucous follicle.

Although these defects are not noticeable until adult years are reached, there is no doubt but they are all of embryonic origin. In many of them, after being open, they resist the strongest irritants and fail to permanently cicatrize. The movement of the larynx in respiration, speech and swallowing, interferes with their obliteration. The morbid anatomy and the pathological ground-work of these formations is an embryonic derivation of the tissue elements, in the evolution of the buccal and laryngeal organ. The pathogeny of them, the dermoid and mucoid alike may be traced to vice of evolution in embryonic lip, an arrest of, or disordered development. Treatment must be based on a precise knowledge of their structure and relations. The older plan of injecting these fistulæ must be discarded, because there is danger of septic infection, and besides it is very painful.

Hence the proper course to pursue, is to dissect them out and solidly close them from their base. But we must bear in mind that as they extend into the deeper parts, they often have many tributary branches, which must be completely destroyed or else there will be relapses. A most fruitful source of relapse in all cases is the neglect to enucleate these minute diverticula.

The author's conclusions are that there

exist congenital median or lateral fistulæ on the neck in the super thyroid and the thyro-hyoid regions. These fistulæ may never be preceded by the presence of a cyst, in which case they are not consecutive but primitive.

Their lamina are always of very small calibre, tortuous, present many diverticula and sinuses, and are lined by ciliated, cylindrical and stratified epithelium. The peculiarity or characteristic of these fistulæ is that they are very rebellious to treatment: their numerous diverticula, their depth, always necessitates an extended and complete dissection.

T. H. M.

#### BIBLE LEPROSY.

MINJ says that the Ezraic description of leprosy in Leviticus xiii, does not correspond with any form of the disease to-day, but does answer to a Turkestan skin disease, known there as *pes*. He also calls attention to the fact that the isolation of lepers was not hygienic but religious, as they were unclean, to Jews, but not to Gentiles, according to the Mishna. In Turkestan, those affected with *pes* are abhorred even by the true lepers. He says there is no evidence of leprosy existing in Egypt at the time of the Hebraic captivity, though Lucretius says it existed there in the century preceding the Christian era. In Leviticus the term leprosy seems to have been applied to any spreading skin disease, psoriasis, sycosis or impetigo, as well as to mould on the walls and garments.

In one particular Minj is probably mistaken, as Manetho attributes the Exodus itself to the expulsion of the lepers from Egypt.

#### EFFECT OF PURGATIVES ON SUCKLINGS.

IN the *Practitioner*, for March, Gow contributes some observations on the effect on sucklings of purgatives given to the mother. The drugs were given for a week, and pains taken to exclude accidental causes of fallacy. Senna, in compound licorice powder and in confection, was given to eleven cases, with no effect on the children, except that one was "less costive."



Ten cases were treated with aloes, Barbadoes, two and one-half to five grains daily. In eight, there was no effect; in one, the child became more costive, and in one, the bowels acted twice a day, instead of once, as previously.

Cascara sagrada was given to ten cases; of which eight cases were unaffected, one less and one more costive.

Eleven cases were treated with sulphate of magnesia. In five, the children's bowels were unaffected, in five they were looser, and in one more costive.

There was no relation between the action on the mother and that on the child, except with the magnesia, and here, in four cases, free action on the mother coincided with some action on the child; while in the case where the mother was most affected the child was unaffected.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL STUDY OF CHOLERA IN FRANCE.

IN the *Rèvue Generale de Medicine de Chirurgie et d Obstetrique*, Feb. 22nd, '93, there appears a highly interesting and valuable contribution on the subject of cholera, by M M. Lesage and Macaigne, entitled "Etude Bacteriologique du Cholera observe á la Hopital St. Antoine, in 1892."

The observations on which their brochure is based, were made in Pasteur's laboratory in Paris. They say: "During the last epidemic of cholera, which invaded Paris and its environs, 250 cholera patients were admitted into the hospital of St. Anthony in the service of M. Hayem. We studied these cases, chiefly from a bacteriological point of view, and here submit our conclusions:

1st. There were many microbian varieties of cholera seen, in which it was impossible to distinguish clinically: (a) cholera bacillus-comma; (b) the cholera bacillus coli, and (c) the poly-bacillian without the comma-bacillus.

2nd. In the first variety (a), the comma-bacillus was never found pure.

3rd. A certain number of cases might be defined as cholera from bacillus coli.

4th. There was no relation between the number of the comma-bacilli and the gravity of the disease, as a simple diarrhoea might contain an abundant crop of the comma-bacilli.

5th. Varying shades of mildness and gravity were observed in mixed, as well as the pure cultures. The presence of the comma-bacillus was invariable in mortal cases.

6th. Cadaveric rigidity, in all mortal cases alike, set in during the first few hours after death.—(*Cholera Algide.*)

7th. Choleric reaction seems to be a secondary infection from the bacilli-coli, as their presence was proved in nearly all the organs after death. T. H. M.

#### Book Notices.

OPHTHALMIC CASE BOOK. By L. Webster Fox, M. D., and E. E. Holt, M. D. Sixth edition. 250 pages, Published by John L. Borsch & Co., Opticians, Philadelphia, Pa.

The demand for this case book has been a growing one, as it has gone through five editions in a comparatively short time. The details of the book are well carried out. The busy ophthalmic surgeon will save much time by using it. It is printed on good paper and well indexed.

THE MEDICAL ANNUAL AND PRACTITIONER'S INDEX. A work of reference for medical practitioners. 1893. Eleventh year. English Publishers, John Wright & Co., Bristol. American Publishers, E. B. Treat, New York. Cloth, 8 vo pp., 800. Price, \$2.75.

This volume is designed to give a concise outline of the year's work in practical therapeutics. An enormous amount of labor is entailed by the effort to sift the vast mass of medical literature and retain the really new and useful matter. While it would be easy to point out errors, of omission and of commission, we feel tempted rather to congratulate the publishers that the work has been done so well. Altogether, it is one of the books that every busy physician must have.

The titles of papers for the Section of General Medicine of the Pan-American Medical Congress should be sent at once to the secretary, Dr. Judson Daland, No. 319 South 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. For the Section on Dermatology and Syphilography titles should be sent to Dr. W. S. Gottheil, 25 West 53d Street, New York City.

## News and Miscellany.

Carbonic acid checks fermentation of milk.

Spitzbergen water has no bacilli or pathogenic micro-organisms whatever.

The Professor Virchow now visiting in this country is the son of the great cellular pathologist of Berlin.

The Indiana State Board of Health has ordered all cities and towns to clean their streets and alleys at once.

Dr. S. V. Clevenger has received his appointment as Superintendent of the Kankakee Insane Asylum.

A bill now before the Pennsylvania Legislature gives boroughs the right to appoint local boards of health.

Mr. Ernest Hart has done a public service by demolishing the pretensions of the Luys school of hypnotism.

It is said there is a great demand for competent Democratic doctors in Illinois, to fill offices at the disposal of the Governor.

The town of Isabel, Illinois, is suffering from an epidemic of measles, introduced by an undertaker, who brought a body there for burial.

A London medical student was seized with smallpox; and while the authorities were squirming to avoid taking the case, he poisoned himself.

The Liège medical students have formed a society to visit patients discharged from hospitals, and supply food and other necessities during convalescence.

While Dr. A. J. Baxter, of Chicago, was intervening between a woman and a crowd of toughs, one of them relieved the doctor of a \$1200 diamond stud.

Chicago has just completed a new garbage crematory; and the last analyses of her drinking water show it to be re-

markably pure. New York papers please copy.

Pick has found that wine added to water lessens the risk of infection by cholera or typhoid bacilli. The mixture should be made twenty-four hours before use, and drank from the original vessels.

Through the kindness of Messrs. P. Blakiston, Son & Co., we have received a number of copies of Sir Morell Mackenzie's pamphlet on Diphtheria, which will be sent to our subscribers, free, on application.

A young woman, apparently drowned, was fished out of an English river by a man. Animation was restored for a few hours; and this bilked the rescuer out of his fee, as it is only paid for recovering a dead body! Fine arrangement, that!

It is reported that the skeletons of a company of soldiers were found in a canyon in New Mexico, near a spring whose water is poisonous.



There should be little doubt as to the therapeutic powers of a water capable of killing a whole company.

Health officer Veale addressed the Central Conference of Moral Workers on the strongholds of contagion in the city, and the danger from them in the event of cholera. The sweating system was roundly denounced and a crusade against it is about to be organized.

An electrical process for making indigo consists of oxidizing the yellow liquid formed from the dried plants steeped in water by passing an electric current through it from copper electrodes. The indigo thus formed is said to be purer and finer than that produced in the usual way.

Dr. John Hazlewood, of Eckerty, Indiana, is the proud owner of a heavy gold finger ring set with three diamonds, which, he asserts, was once the property of Marie Antoinette, the unfortunate Queen of France. The ring came into his possession through his maternal grandmother, whose grandmother was a

# WHAT \$5.00 WILL BUY WHEN WELL INVESTED.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>Croom's Minor Surgical Gynecology, 1 00<br/>Hadra's Lesions of Vagina, . . . . 1 00<br/>Hewson's Earth in Surgery, . . . . 1 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>2. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>The Medical Register, Vols. I, II and<br/>III, bound in <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> Morocco, . . . . 3 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>3. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>The Medical World " . . . . 1 00<br/>The Medical Brief " . . . . 1 00<br/>The Medical Age " . . . . 1 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>4. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>The Medical World, . . . . . 1 00<br/>The Dietetic Gazette, . . . . . 1 00<br/>Inter-Journal of Surgery, . . . . . 1 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>5. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>Any \$2.00 journal published, . . . . 2 00<br/>Any \$1.00 journal published, . . . . 1 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>6. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>The Medical World Visiting List<br/>and Ledger, . . . . . 1 00<br/>The Physician as a Business Man,<br/>(Dr. J. J. Taylor), . . . . . 1 00<br/>Outline of Treatment by Dosimetric<br/>Granules, (Dr. Waugh), . . . . . 50<br/>Chart of Skin Diseases, . . . . . 50<br/>\$6 00</p> | <p>7. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>The T. &amp; R. Hypodermic Syringe 1 50<br/>Outlines of Dosimetry, (Waugh), . . 50<br/>Case of 12 Dosimetric Remedies, . . 1 00<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>8. The Times and Register for 1893, . . \$3 00<br/>Official Formulæ of American Hos-<br/>pitals, . . . . . 1 00<br/>Physician as a Business Man, . . . . 1 00<br/>Outlines of Dosimetry, . . . . . 50<br/>Chart of Skin Diseases, . . . . . 50<br/>\$6 00</p> <p>9. Send us an order for \$10.00 worth of books,<br/>journals, instruments, or any goods adver-<br/>tised in the TIMES AND REGISTER, and we<br/>will send the Journal one year free of<br/>charge.</p> <p>10. Send us a club of ten subscribers, with<br/>\$30.00 cash, and we will send you our<br/>T. &amp; R. Physician's Watch; American<br/>movement, stem winder and setter, sweep<br/>second-hand, nickel case.<br/>Regular price, . . . . . \$9 00</p> <p> Subscriptions to any journals in these<br/>offers must be new ones, except for the Medi-<br/>cal World.</p> <p> Cash must accompany the order in every<br/>case.</p> |
|--|---|

## Subscription Manager, TIMES AND REGISTER:

1725 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Enclosed find \$..... for which send me  
TIMES AND REGISTER for 1893.

Special Offer No. ....

Address, .....

P. O., .....

Date, .....

State, .....



Clinical evidence shows that apart from the value of **Cod Liver**

**Oil** as an assimilable fat, the active principles of the oil, known collectively as **Morrhuel**, represent its true therapeutic value.

## MORRHUOL

(CHAPOTEAUT)  
Ext. Olei Morrhue Alcoholicum.

The Alkaloids and all the active principles of Cod Liver Oil dispensed in spherical capsules, each of which is equivalent to one teaspoonful of oil.

Nausea, taste and smell avoided.

**Morrhuel** obtains excellent results wherever the oil is indicated, but is not tolerated. It is the type of those remedies used in wasting diseases which act by stimulating nutrition.

**Morrhuel Créosoté** is recommended for the treatment of bronchial catarrh, and tuberculosis. The stomach rapidly accommodates itself to large doses.

## MORRHUOL CRÉOSOTÉ

In spherical capsules, each of which contains 1 minim of Créosote (equal to 90% of Guaiacol) and 3 minims of Morrhuel.

Dose: 4 to 12 capsules daily.

After a few days there is a noticeable increase in the appetite and improved general condition, besides decrease in the Expectoration, Night sweats and Cough.

# VIN IODOTANÉ NOURRY

IODINE and TANNIN in WINE

## A Substitute for Cod Liver Oil

**Iodinated Wine (Nourry)** is a preparation in which Iodine is really combined with Tannin. Its richness in Iodine, its pleasant flavor, its stability, and (on account of the action of the Tannin) its being so perfectly well supported by the most delicate stomachs and so easy of assimilation render it the most effective and agreeable form in which Iodine can be administered. The Iodinated Wine (Nourry) would therefore suggest itself for

### Use whenever Iodine is indicated

It has been found superior to Cod Liver Oil, especially in children's maladies. It is recommended in phthisis, la grippe, anaemia, rheumatism, bronchitis, asthma, emphysema and chronic catarrh by such eminent French physicians as Drs. Dujardin-Beaumetz, Féréol, Huchard, de Saint-Germain, Simon, Sevestre, Gibert, Moizard and Abadie.

To avoid substitution

"Vin (Iodotané) Nourry" and should exact

*Nourry*

physicians should write

the manufacturer's signature.

Send for pamphlet to

**E. FOUGERA & CO., NEW YORK**

Sole Agents for the United States

Mention this Journal

maid of honor at the French court during those troublesome days.

There is strong opposition to the proposed establishment of a floating cholera hospital on the Thames, on the ground that this disease is peculiarly prone to spread by water.

The typesetter is destined to figure in the funny columns pretty extensively if it does much work like the following, which we clip from the *Record*:

"105 houses to be built at once will front on Berks, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth, and cmfwyrdlucmfwyrdlup 25½ and Norris Streets."

One of the peculiarities of the cocoanut palm is that it never stands upright. A Malayan saying has it that: "He who has looked upon a dead monkey; he who has found the nest of the paddy-bird; he who hath beheld a straight cocoanut, or has fathomed the deceitful heart of woman, will live forever."

A Paris baker found that by mixing a little chloride of tin, dissolved in hydrochloric acid, with bad flour and molasses, he could make gingerbread equal to the finest article prepared with honey. The police put an end to his little game, and ordered every cake to be hereafter stamped with the baker's name.

A Philadelphia coroner's jury in the case of a man who was run over by a freight car, brought in a verdict that the man committed suicide while temporarily insane. If the temporary insanity had been ascribed to the car it would have been better. The same jury ascribed the death of a child to acute ammonia.

The investigations in progress at Washington into the operations of the Whisky Trust have elicited some startling information. Charges of attempted bribery to dynamiting of competing distilleries are supplemented by accusations of grossest dishonesty in the manufacture and branding of the goods of the monopoly. Chemists show how whiskys of "age and quality" are produced arti-

ficially, by the aid of flavors, essences, and colors added to raw spirits and the suspicion prevails that the majority of the consuming trade have been outrageously swindled. Altogether, the disclosures have been decidedly sensational, of a nature to lead thinking men to consider the causes and conditions rendering possible the existence and triumphant progress of a trust so gigantic and unscrupulous.—*Pharm. Era*.

Several letters have appeared in the *Lancet* relative to the United States as a field for the British doctor. The last is from one who has resided here twenty years, and with true British gratitude to the land that has fed him so long, he gives it a left-handed blessing. America he deems the quacks' El Dorado, and the British doctor can't compete with them. [Judging by the accounts in the *Hospital Gazette* the B. D. can give the quack sixty points in one hundred and beat him.] The ratio of legitimate practitioners to the population he puts at one to five hundred, not including irregulars. This does not agree with Polk, who makes it one to eight hundred, including practitioners of all descriptions. However, he is right in one respect. The British doctor had better stay at home. We can worry along without him.

The following important changes in spelling have been recommended by the American Association for the Advancement of Science:

Aluminum for aluminium.

Cesium for cæsium.

Columbium for niobium.

Glucium for beryllium.

Sulfur and sulfates, for sulphur, etc.

The suffix *ic* is used for metals only when contrasted with *ous*.

*Ol* is used exclusively for alcohols.

Final *e* is dropped from all the *ides* and the *ines*.

In such words as mil'lime"ter, the accent is as given.

Latin prefixes alone are used in derivatives of *valence*.

Arsin, for arseniuretted hydrogen, etc.

Gramme instead of gram, because the latter may be mistaken for grain.

A CURIOSITY IN PRESCRIPTIONS. — The curiosity given below is the work of a physician of Philadelphia. It required three days to procure all the ingredients, and the cost to the patient was \$18, the muria puama alone costing, wholesale, \$1.25 per ounce. I submit it, thinking it may prove interesting as an example of the true "shot-gun" prescription :

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| R Quinin. bisulph . . . . .                       | 3 iss    |
| Ferri pyrophosph . . . . .                        | 3 j      |
| Lith. bromid . . . . .                            | 3 iv     |
| Ammon. bromid . . . . .                           | 3 ij     |
| Sod. bromid . . . . .                             | 3 iv     |
| Fowler's solution . . . . .                       | 3 4      |
| F. E. muria puama (Prof. Miller's only) . . . . . | 3 viij   |
| F. E. nuc. vomic . . . . .                        | 3 ss     |
| F. E. ignatæ . . . . .                            | 3 ss     |
| F. E. hydrastis . . . . .                         | 3 vj     |
| F. E. hamamelis . . . . .                         | 3 iv     |
| F. E. staphisagriae . . . . .                     | 3 ss     |
| F. E. sarsaparilla . . . . .                      | 3 v      |
| Pancreatine } aa . . . . .                        | 3 4      |
| Pepsine (pure) . . . . .                          | 3 4      |
| F. E. pulsatilla . . . . .                        | 3 ss     |
| F. E. arnica . . . . .                            | 3 ij     |
| F. E. belladonna . . . . .                        | gtt. xxj |
| F. E. aconit . . . . .                            | gtt. xv  |
| Aqua q s. to make . . . . .                       | 3 xxxij  |

Mixt. Sig—Two teaspoonfuls in plenty of water. Shake well. (Take after meals).—T. L.—*Pharm. Record.*

#### NON-POLITICAL HEALTH OFFICERS.—

Two hundred of Chicago's ablest physicians met on Saturday night and discussed the best methods of preventing and meeting a cholera epidemic in Chicago. It was agreed that pure water and clean back yards were of the greatest importance to prevent contagion. The streets were of minor importance from a strictly sanitary point of view.

Much importance was attached to the care of patients and to the enforcement of sanitary regulations by the local health officers. On this division of the subject a physician said: "The health force should be kept out of the hands of political doctors."

The possibility of a visitation from cholera renders all the more important the election of a mayor who will give to the city a non-partisan administration on business lines. Mr. Allerton will not have to load the health department down with political doctors in payment for ante-election services or in hope of future elections.

Cholera and Carter Harrison would be a perilous combination.—*Chicago News.*

PHONOGRAPH MONKEY TALK.—Prof. Garner has written a letter to his brother in Australia in which he declares that he has "succeeded beyond his wildest anticipations" in his experiments with monkey talk in Africa. He says: "I am safe on the coast, just reeking with quinine, the proud possessor of a chimpanzee that can say 'Tenakoe Pakeha,' which is, you know, the Maori for 'Good day, stranger;' a gorilla that knows about twenty words of Fijian, and a female ourang-outang that has picked up 'Tonner und blitzten' from my German valet, and has, judging from her actions, quite fallen in love with him. I have also got written down—which is more important—nearly 200 monkey words. Here are a few, spelt phonetically: 'Achru,' meaning sun, fire, warmth, etc.; 'kukcha,' meaning water, rain, cold and, apparently, anything disagreeable; 'goshku,' meaning food, the act of eating. You will see from this that it is a very primitive language; there are, perhaps, not more than twenty or thirty words in it that I have not already got, so that my task is now practically completed."

When his battery, phonograph and revolving mirror began to work he says that "the glitter of the mirror soon attracted a host of chattering monkeys. I watched them for an hour and then cautiously approached. They disappeared like magic when they saw me—all but one, a chimpanzee. When I got close to it I found that it took no notice of me, but stood as transfixed, with widely opened eyes and dilated pupils, gazing at the mirror. There was a slight tremulous motion in the limbs and a spasmodic twitching of the ears. I could hardly believe it. The animal was hypnotized. It was making a guttural sound like 'achru.' When I subsequently listened to the 'gram' I found that a similar sound was frequently recorded thereon amid what was then to me an unintelligible jumble of monkey chatter. I put the monkey in a bamboo cage, and on examining him about an hour afterward found him still under the hypnotic influence. I revived him with a good, strong



sniff of ammonia, and held a lighted taper before his eyes. He was quite tractable and said 'achru,' and a few more tests satisfied me that this word embodied the idea of heat, light, warmth and brightness. Other words followed, and it was wonderful to take note of his awakening intelligence."

### AN ACT

#### *To prevent the spread of tuberculosis among domestic animals.*

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, &c.,* That when it shall be brought to the notice of the Governor and Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, that a contagious disease known as tuberculosis exists among domestic animals in this state, they may take proper measures to prevent its further spread.

SECT. 2. That for this purpose they shall have power to place infected animals, herds and premises in quarantine; to employ such assistants as may be necessary to properly carry out the provisions of this act and to fix their compensation, and to regulate the movements of animals likely to convey the contagion from the infected premises.

SECT. 3. That any person or persons wilfully violating any of the provisions of such quarantine, or wilfully interfering with officers appointed under this act, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor and shall upon conviction be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding one month, or both, at the discretion of the jurisdiction under which conviction is secured.

SECT. 4. That when it shall be deemed advisable to condemn and kill any infected animal or animals and an agreement cannot be made with the owner or owners thereof as to their value, three appraisers shall be appointed who shall, under oath or affirmation, appraise the animal or animals taking into consideration their actual condition at time of appraisal, and the owner shall be paid one-half of the said appraisal. *Provided*, that no such appraisal shall exceed forty dollars for any one animal.

SECT. 5. That all necessary expenses under the provisions of this act shall, after

approval in writing by the Governor and Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, be paid by the State Treasurer upon the warrant of the Auditor General in the manner now provided by law.

SECT. 6. That the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture may, upon application from the owner or owners of any herd, detail a proper veterinary surgeon to examine said herd, and on the report of such a surgeon, may issue a certificate showing the condition of the herd at the time of examination. *Provided*, That the expenses of such an examination shall be paid by the owner or owners of the animals examined.

SECT. 7. That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed.

## The Medical Digest.

### ON THE MODE OF ADMINISTERING TAR.

By WILLIAM MURRELL, M.D., F.R.C.P.,

[Physician and Lecturer on Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Westminster Hospital.]

THE value of tar in the treatment of chronic bronchitis has long been recognized, and the literature on the subject is somewhat extensive. Putting aside the works of Axtius and of Roburg, it may be said that attention was first generally directed to the subject by the publication of the "Siris" of the Right Rev. Dr. Berkeley, Lord Bishop of Cloyne. This book ran through several editions, and was translated into almost every European language. In 1823 Sir Alexander Crichton published a work on the value of tar in the treatment of pulmonary affections, in which he gave details of cases treated in tar chambers. In 1860 Sales-Girons issued a book much on the same lines, advocating the employment of inhalations and fumigations of tar. In 1875 I recorded a number of cases of bronchial catarrh and winter cough treated with tar, and since then papers and cases by the score have appeared in almost every medical journal all over the world.

Although tar is admittedly an excellent remedy, not only for winter cough, but for many other complaints, there are

a good many difficulties in the way of its administration. In the first place, there is the old-fashioned tar-water, which is still used as a domestic remedy in many parts of the country, but tar is very sparingly soluble in water, and several pints of that somewhat insipid fluid would have to be taken in order to get anything like a real useful dose of tar. Then there is syrup of tar of the United States Pharmacopœia, the use of which I advocated many years ago. In making this preparation the tar is washed with cold water for twenty-four hours, and the fluid is then thrown away, boiling water being subsequently added. Whether there is any advantage in the preliminary washing is a point on which there is some difference of opinion. At all events it is a very good preparation, although it cannot be said to be a very strong one.

Next there is a patent preparation used in America which is simply a solution of tar in old Jamaica rum. It is certainly palatable, but winter cough is a very chronic complaint, and if a wineglassful of this concoction were taken every time the patient coughed he would stand a very good chance of never seeing summer again. Tar may be made up into pills with lycopodium, but they are of necessity somewhat bulky, and the prospect of having to take two pills every four hours all the winter through is not a pleasant one. Tar is often put up in perles or capsules, and on the Continent it is sold in the form of the "Dragées de Christiania au Goudron de Norvège," but they are expensive, and are not adapted to the tastes of English consumers. I have recently had my attention called to the tabloids of tar, containing one grain in each, and these I think constitute by far the best mode of administering the drug. They contain the whole of the constituents of tar, and they are palatable and speedily disintegrate. The usual mode of administration is three or four every four hours, but a better plan is to suck one frequently, in fact, every time the cough is troublesome.

**ON BENZOL AS A THERAPEUTIC AGENT.**—Benzol, or benzene, is comparatively little used in medicine. It was originally made by distilling benzoic acid with lime, but was subsequently found to exist as a constituent of coal-gas tar. In

the Appendix to the British Pharmacopœia it is described as a colorless volatile liquid obtained from coal-tar. For internal administration it is purified by treating it with sulphuric acid and redistilling. It is a pretty active poison. People who use benzol systematically in dyeing and cleaning clothes suffer from headache, vertigo, and symptoms of intoxication passing on in some cases into delirium. Taken internally, it dilates the pupils, produces irregular stertorous breathing, weak pulse and marked coldness of the extremities. Death has resulted from taking three drachms. It is not only a powerful toxic agent, but in small doses possesses useful medicinal properties. The formula I usually employ is: Pure benzol, one and a half drachms, oil of peppermint, half a drachm; and olive oil, two ounces. This makes a very palatable preparation. The dose is from ten to thirty drops on sugar every three or four hours. I have used it in some cases of influenza, and in over a hundred cases of chronic bronchitis and winter cough. It is an expectorant and sedative, and in obstinate cases which have resisted other remedies is certainly most useful. In the dose I have mentioned I have never found it produce toxic symptoms or any unpleasant result.—*Med. Press & Circular.*

#### FRENCH NOTES.

TRANSLATED BY E. W. BING, M.D.  
CHESTER, PA.

**ACHILLODYNIA**—Under this term Prof. Albert (Vienna) describes a condition, which he has observed several times. In this affection, walking and standing are rendered insupportable from the pains, which disappear as soon as the patient, sits, or lies down. The pain is felt exactly at the insertion of the tendo-achillis, which seems also, somewhat thickened. There exists a little hardness, sensible to pressure. In other cases the perios-teum adjacent to the tendon is swollen. The pains are stubborn and seem to resist all treatment, hot or cold applications, iodine, etc. It seems to depend on rheumatic influence, as it often occurs in patients who have had muscular or articular rheumatism. In 1883 Raynal described peritendinous cellulitis of the tendo-achillis, but the description does

not tally with Albert's observations. Pitha described partial rupture and tearing of the insertion of the tendon and the signs correspond to those described above. He also mentions the tenacity of the affection. The disease has been known to exacerbate under the influence of an attack of gonorrhœa. Cases of pain in the tendon due to flat foot are to be excluded. (The affection has been cured by a combination of phenacetine, acetanilid and quinine, in a few days.—B)—*La France Medicale*.

**PARALYSIS FOLLOWING CHOLERA INFANTUM.**—Bezy observed a child of fourteen months who had paralysis of the cervical muscles, soon followed by paresis of the anus, as a sequel of gastro-enteritis. The intestine was the gate of entry for an infection to which the paralytic phenomena were ascribed. The paralysis rapidly got better. The condition can, without doubt, be attributed to the action of the bacillus coli commune. (Hanot). Intestinal trouble often precedes infantile paralysis. (Siredey).—*La France Medicale*.

**APROPOS OF THE TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.**—The general opinion is that it is necessary above all things to destroy the bacilli and the streptococci, to combat the toxic effect of their products and to sustain the patient. As to the best means of doing this opinions are divided, especially among the Germans, as will be seen from the following epitome:—

*Baginsky* considers the best treatment to be corrosive sublimate,  $\frac{1}{8000}$  for gargles, and  $\frac{1}{1000}$  for local use, with sprays of lactic acid and papaine. Result: Mortality of forty per cent.

*Struebing* uses locally solutions of iodo-phenol, tr. iron and sulphur, with gargles of lime water, and cyanide of mercury internally. Later on he uses locally carbolic acid, alcohol and turpentine.

*Wilhelmy* cauterizes the diseased surfaces with solution of zinc chloride 20 per cent. and uses gargles of lime water with spirits peppermint.

*Barbin* is of opinion that the most effectual local application consists of sulpho-carbolic acid 20 per cent., applied

every hour during the day, less often at night.

*Stein* extols the method of Burghardt, generous diet, gargles of lime water and insufflations of a mixture of quinine and sulphur.

*Janicke* and others use methyl violet locally, from 2 to 10 per cent. solutions or powders.

*Gunz* prefers chrome water, containing in the daily supply  $\frac{1}{2}$  grain bichromate potash.

*Ozegowski* has used for ten years a mixture of three to five parts each of carbolic acid, citric acid and tinct. iodine in 100 parts of brandy. This is applied to the throat every two or three hours.

*Martin* employs locally a mixture of carbolic acid one part, camphor one part, glycerine fifty parts, water fifty parts.

*Moskowitz & Klein* (of Lugos) are satisfied to apply neapolitan (blue) ointment to the cervical region, believing that expectant treatment is as good as any other.

*Wissing* saturates the air of the room with turpentine by evaporating five ounces daily, near the patient.

*Lebwartz* recommends sozoiodol in solution or powder.

*Hagedorn* has recourse to the galvano cautery.

It results therefore that the local treatment should be antiseptic, but the best antiseptic has yet to be decided on.—*L'Union Medicale, du Canada*.

**THE PRESENT TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY** (*La France Med.*)—In a review of this subject, Eulenberg gives first place among drugs to the bromides, and considers bromide of potassium as the best. With an idea that a combination of the several bromides acts better than a single preparation, he gives the salts of potassium, sodium, and ammonium in the proportions of 2, 2, 1. He gives the dose in carbonic acid water to avoid cumulative effects and bromism, both by exciting the renal function and by increasing the solubility of the drugs. For eight years he has used bromine (ized) water with success. The effervescent bromides are also useful. All should be freely diluted. As to doses, they should be hardly less than 5 grms. (75 grs.) for adults; often, they may be increased to 9 or 10 grammes,



to be given two or three times. The time of the attack regulates the dosing. If it occurs during the day, 2 strong doses are given, in the morning, and at noon. If the attack comes on exclusively at night, a single dose at bedtime is given. The bromides should be continued for a long time, at least for two years after the last manifestation. During the whole treatment the drug should never be intermitted except for intercurrent affections. Menstruation and pregnancy are not contra-indications. It is useless to vary the doses and as soon as the daily dose proves sufficient it should be maintained during the entire treatment.

There are instances where the bromides are not well borne, or have no action. These cases form about fifty per cent. of the whole number of cases. Other drugs may then be tried, among them the new antipyretics and ergot. Hygienic treatment must not be overlooked; the mode of living must be regular and free from excesses. All excitants are avoided; coffee, tea, tobacco, spices, and especially alcoholics. Meals should be frequent and small in quantity. The evening meal especially should be light and should not include meat or fatty substances. If there is anæmia, a diet rich in nitrogenous matters should be used. Bathing is important, but river baths and sea baths are contra-indicated. The patient should be much out of doors. Eulenberg does not consider treatment by electricity rational.

**HYPNOTISM AMONG THE ANNAMITES.** (Dr. Michaud, Yokohama).—It would seem at first sight that the Orientals ought to escape the neuro-pathic defects so frequent among Europeans. The easy mode of life, the rarity of intellectual overwork, the absence of poisons which induce nervous affections such as alcohol and tobacco ought to preserve these people from neuroses whose frequency increases daily in the western races. Attentive examination shows that it is not so. The Japanese, Chinese and Annamites are subject to nervous disorders. It would be interesting to attempt, from a side still unexplored by pathologists, a study, having for its aim to do for the Japanese painters, and the painters of religious subjects in particular, what the school of Salpêtrière has so well done for our European art, in

the investigations into "Hysteria in Japanese art, and hysterical manifestations in religious practices in the extreme East." It would not be difficult to find in the Japanese masters certain attitudes, certain movements, reproduced from nature and which prove the undoubted existence of hysteria in these peoples.

Among the Annamites, hysteria in the women is relatively rare; on the other hand, in males it is sufficiently common, especially in the educated, the interpreters and those who by their profession have any continued mental work. There exist in Tonquin and in Annam a large number of religious practices, superstitions, in which may be easily noticed not only the marks of hysteria but the signs of suggestion. There is an entire sect of natives, sorcerers, priests and diviners, who live by their art, sorcery. In the country they are greatly respected, frequently consulted, and they are enveloped in mystery. They also practice medicine of an elementary character, which combines the uses of Chinese drugs, and massage. Massage of the head, for instance, is employed as a last resort in all grave maladies.

The study of the magnetic passes is not wanting in interest, for it is not rare to witness ceremonies where the magician or sorcerer falls back on suggestion and hypnotism to develop his subjects. But there also exist in Annam, true sorcerers, the "phu-long" and "phu-toni." What is particularly curious in the cabalistic practices of this class is the use of certain procedures of hypnosis, absolutely analogous to those methods employed in Europe by physicians who use hypnotism. Thus the Annamite produces sleep by causing the patient to fix his eyes on some brilliant object. He then seats himself in front and delivers a long speech, accompanied by gesticulations; the patient has received orders to keep his eyes fixed on the object (which is generally a lighted incense stick. "joss stick," placed behind the operator's ears) and the rapid movements of this during the gesticulations, is not slow in producing sleep, if the subject is hypnotizable. Another plan is to agitate a small scarlet flag before the patient's eyes, making it perform a figure of eight motion and causing a snapping sound. The gong

employed at La Salpetriere and at Nancy has an analogous action. The Annamites are very good subjects, and some have a surprising capability for hypnotic impressions. As to hysteria and neurasthenia, it may be said that they are so frequent as to be the rule among this nation. The causes are numerous, but the most important is the abuse of opium. Morphinism and morphine insanity are widely spread and are due to opium smoking.

The hysteria is of toxic origin as Neveu-Derotrie has shown, morphia, like alcohol and tobacco, may be the cause of hysteria, and that the absorption from the lungs produces the poisonous effects quicker than by hypodermic application. All the disorders and the phenomena commonly observed in hysteria may be produced by this drug from the ocular troubles to the paralyses, from mental disorders to the anæsthesias. It would be interesting to define the limit between the symptoms due to opium and those proper to hysteria. Since in Japan the use of opium is interdicted there must be some other causes. Poor food, almost entirely vegetable, intellectual overwork, poverty and excessive labor are the principal factors in the production of hysteria among the Japanese students. In a particular class of students, the "Sochi" exaltation, homicidal tendencies, impulsion, the true hysteric madness were observed. Manifest traces of a neurosis are found in the Japanese paintings illustrative of popular legends, such as the transformation of a woman into a fox, and vice versa. There is at Tokio a temple much frequented by the people which is dedicated to Asakusa, it contains a wooden statue which, according to popular belief, can cure all diseases. It is requisite to rub with the hand the part of the statue corresponding to the diseased organs of the patient, and then to rub the diseased part itself. It is infallible. Does not show evident signs of the power of suggestion. Again, at the anniversary of the death of Ochaka, who carried Buddhistic doctrines to Japan, the priests place his effigy in a metal basin, then the patients perform ablutions with consecrated water, after having first sprinkled the statue. The disease disappears—the paralytic regains the use of his limbs, the

blind recover sight. Are not all these cures in great measure dependent on the cure of the hysterical condition? Among the Annamites there are ceremonies which resemble those of the dancing dervishes, and which result in the same way. When exhausted from the exercise and want of breath, they fall to the earth and remain motionless, in a cataleptic condition, insensible to all external influences, completely anæsthetized. In short, it is the picture of the classical climax of hysteria. The object of these ceremonies is to inform the patient of the name of the demon who is pursuing him with his anger, and to find means to propitiate him and appease his wrath. These find a parallel in the practices of the middle ages.—*Bulletin Generale de Therapeutique*.

TAENIA IN CHILDREN.—(Bauenel).—*Jour. de Paris*.—Ol. male fern three grammes, syrup of turpentine, distilled water, each twenty-five grammes, powd. gum arabic two grammes. To be taken at one dose, and followed in two hours by castor oil.

NEW ICHTHYOL PENCILS FOR INTRA-UTERINE APPLICATIONS.—Sublimate gr. 0.01, ichthyol gr. 0.20, talc. gr. 0.65, gum gr. 0.04, glycerine gr. 0.05, water gr. 0.05.—*Hirigoyen*.

#### GERMAN NOTES.

TRANSLATED BY DR. AD. MEYER.

THE CONTAGIOUSNESS OF DIPHTHERIA.—In an excellent paper read before the Hufeland'sche Gesellschaft of Berlin, Dr. Gottstein says, as the result of careful observations, that the contagiousness of diphtheria is not very great, that it depends more on the virulence of the poison than on insufficient isolation. Experience shows that the methods of isolation commonly used are insufficient in severe cases and that they are unnecessary in slight ones; the danger for children to catch the disease is fortunately very small (with the exception of very virulent forms), whereas the disposition for catching measles by contagion is ninety-nine per cent., in scarlet-fever thirty per cent. of the cases. The disinfection of the houses is easy where the virulence is slight, but very often a fail-

ure in the most dangerous cases, as many lamentable experiences show.—*Deutsche Mediz. Zeitung.*

**TREATMENT OF EPITHELIOMA WITH ARSENIC.**—Dr. Lassar showed in the Berlin Medical Society a woman who came to see him in October, 1892, with an ulcerative epithelioma of the face about the size of half a walnut. Both the clinical appearances and microscopical preparations proved the diagnosis epithelioma. The patient had to undergo a rational cure with arsenic, (Fowler's solution) and the ulcer has been healed since December. L. has two other cases of the same kind, with marked improvement. (It is good to remember that Lassar's cases are of that slowly progressive character of epithelioma of the face, which is called rodent ulcer, and which may heal spontaneously according to Kaposi.)—*Deutsche Med. Zeit.*

**ON COLD AND WARM APPLICATIONS.**—Dr. Silex shows that cold applications (ice or water of 55° F.) on the eye cause a rising of the temperature of the conjunctival sac, and that warm applications of 96-115° F. (and Priessnitz fomentations) cause a fall of temperature. It seems that the same result was obtained in applications on the abdomen, if they did not last a long time and did not cover too great a portion of the surface. This can be explained by reflex action on the blood vessels of the deeper parts. We can thus understand the usefulness of poultices in pleurisy and also the usefulness of cold Priessnitz fomentations. On the whole, however, the patient himself will still be the best guide for the choice between cold and warm.—*Deutsche Medizinale Zeitung.*

**THE TREATMENT OF TETANUS.**—Prof. Peter Albertoni in Bologna reviews 167 cases, of which 131 had been cured, under thirty-nine different treatments. He comes to the following conclusions;

1. That tetanus can be cured with many and widely different means, that, in other words, it often ends in recovery naturally or even notwithstanding the treatment.

2. That tetanus is not such a dangerous disease as is generally supposed.

Tormani's official report on the cases of tetanus that recovered or died in the Italian hospitals shows that the mortality in the years 1882-1887 was forty-four per cent. Tizzoni's and Cattani's treatment with the serum of immune dogs was used in cases that would have recovered anyhow. In most cases the treatment was begun after the first week; the temperature had been increased only very slightly, and the respiration was not much disturbed. The experiments were therefore not quite conclusive. A. considers the chloral treatment to be the most reliable method, both for relieving the pain and for actual help for the cure. Verneuil claims that in the war of 1870 he has obtained cures in fifty per cent. with high doses of chloral. Carpenter and Todd had very favorable results from applications of ice on the spine. This method seems to be rational, as fever in tetanus is of so great significance. Richet's newest experiments on the electric tetanus have given a proof to these facts, and Gaglio has shown that animals, which have got a mortal dose of strychnine, could be saved by means of artificial refrigeration through application of snow and cold water.—*Therap. Monatshefte.*

**THE DANGER OF IODIDE IN THE TREATMENT OF SYPHILIS.**—Dr. E. Finger (Wien) describes—besides the well-known symptoms of acute iodism, coryza, conjunctivitis, eruptions and gastritis—a few rarer symptoms which may become quite distressing. The conjunctivitis may be accompanied by oedema of the lids, and even by ecchymosis, the coryza may lead to oedema of the nose and even of the whole face; the ordinary stomatitis too may show ecchymoses and oedema of the mouth and pharynx, and even oedema of the glottis. Further, he has observed a form of intoxication quite analogous to the intoxication with alcohol, probably due to hyperæmia of the brain; moreover he saw neuralgia of the fifth nerve and paræsthesia in the extremities. Two interesting cases showed a real danger of acute iodism. In a man with beginning cerebral syphilis (continued headache and dizziness) and syphilitic periostitis of the tibia. Finger gave the



patient two doses of 1. 5 (22 grains) within two hours; the next day the left arm and the left leg of the patient were paralyzed, in the night the headache had become worse and the face flushed. An energetic treatment with mercurial inunctions removed all the symptoms, and afterwards iodide of soda in slowly increasing doses was well borne. The second case is a man of about 60, with syphilitic chorio-retinitis. The first dose of iodide caused a severe intoxication, conjunctivitis, coryza, severe headache, and a distinct progress of the disease of the eye: the next day ophthalmoscopic examination showed new hemorrhages in the retina. It is therefore advisable to prevent symptoms of intoxication, especially where there is syphilis of the head. Dr. Finger enumerates the following preventive methods: The best is to dissolve each dose in  $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 pint of milk and even more. Extractum belladonnæ (0.01 pro 1.0 gramme of iodide) recommended by Aubert is less reliable; the same dose of the bromide and of the iodide acts sometime favorably. Among the remedies for acute intoxication F. mentions, first, quinine (Wallace) in doses of 0.15-0.20 (about 3 grains.) Roehmann recommends bicarbonate of soda 10.0-12.0 (2-3 drachms) in two doses within 24 hours, or 4 grammes (1 drachm) after every dose of iodide. Antipyrin 0.5, 2-3 times in intervals of 30 minutes, acts favorably against cerebral symptoms.—*Deutsche Medicinal Zeitung*.

TEST FOR THE URINE IN BEGINNING JAUNDICE.—Dr. H. Rosin (clinic of Prof. Senator, Berlin), recommends the following modification of Maréchal's test for bilirubin in the urine: Prepare a solution of ten parts of tincture of iodine in one hundred parts of alcohol. Take some urine into a test-tube, add carefully along the wall of the inclined tube 2-3 ccm of the reagent so that it forms a distinct layer on the urine. The presence of the smallest amount of bile-pigment is shown by a grass-green ring between the reagent and the urine. This test is successful where Gmelin's nitric acid test and Maréchal's test with ordinary tincture of iodine fail. It shows the slightest trace of jaundice.—*Berliner Klin. Wochenschrift*.

A RULE IN THE SURGICAL TREATMENT OF TUBERCULAR JOINTS.—Prof. Salomoni gives in a lecture the following interesting statement: There is a great similarity between tuberculosis and cancer. As in the latter, it is important to know that those cases of arthritis, in which the corresponding glands have already become infected and thus form new colonies of the disease, give a worse prognosis, and that these glands have to be removed with the same accurate care as the foci in the bone. The results of arthrectomy, resection and amputation for tuberculosis of the joints have been remarkably improved since we remove methodically and most accurately the lymphatic glands of the region as well.—*Centralblatt f. Chirurgie*.

IODOFORM EMULSION IN CHRONIC CYSTITIS.—Dr. Filippow (Charkow) has treated three patients according to v. Mosetig-Moorhof's method with very good results. At intervals of several days he injected from twenty to forty grammes ( $\frac{3}{4}$ -1 $\frac{1}{2}$  ounces) of a ten per cent. iodoform emulsion into the bladder, after having washed it out with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. solution of acidum lacticum; in about one-quarter of an hour the iodoform has sufficiently settled and the liquid is let out. In a case of four years' duration, nineteen injections were necessary. There was no intoxication with iodoform observed. The washing of the bladder previous to the injection is said to be of importance. Further trial would be advisable.—*Centralblatt f. Chirurgie*.

ON THE TREATMENT OF NEPHROLITHIASIS.—Dr. Golowin (St. Petersburg) gave the patients three times a day, with the meals, magnesia usta and carbonate of lime, fifteen grains of each. The patient had not to change the ordinary diet. With this medication he wished to prevent the resorption of acid phosphates and of soluble oxalates, by bringing them into an insoluble form *within the bowel*. This plan has its foundation in the experiments of Riesel and Lehman, and in the experience with mineral waters and in theoretical considerations. The results have so far been very promising. The sediments of urates and of oxalates disappear from the urine, sometimes very rapidly; the

sciatic neuralgia, so frequent in these cases, ceases; the numerous symptoms of neurasthenia and psychical depression disappear; whereas pre-existing calculi are not influenced, the new formation of renal sand and the consecutive renal colics are stopped. This medication has the advantage that it can be continued a long time, whereas prolonged use of alkalines is apt to cause disorder in various parts of the body.—*Deutsche Mediz. Zeitg.*

**SURGERY OR ELECTRICITY IN GYNECOLOGY.**—The conclusions suggested to my mind are: *First.* That temporary conditions of acute pelvic inflammation, due to non-septic causes, are quick, as a rule, to respond to the ordinary palliative measures for allaying inflammation, such as the use of salines, rest in bed, etc. That if properly treated they are apt to get well without leaving any permanent lesion behind them.

*Second.* That for the treatment of pelvic disease the use of electricity, even in skilled hands, has proved uncertain in its results and is fraught with possibilities so dangerous as to preclude its use as a therapeutic agent, in the manner at present advocated.

*Third.* That when the history of a case, and careful and intelligent examination prove a pelvic malady to be of long standing, and a source of persistent ill health, it is poor practice to waste time in prolonged palliative treatment, when an exploratory incision can clear up the obscurity and prepare the way at least for intelligent management.

*Fourth.* That in acute cases, where masses are found in the pelvis, and the accompanying history and symptoms point to the probability of the existence of conditions which delay may render dangerous, there should be early and prompt resort to operation.

*Fifth.* That for the attainment of satisfactory results from such operations the skilled workman is required; therefore their performance should be delegated to the few whom natural gifts, training and surroundings, enable to attain a high degree of excellence in abdominal and pelvic surgery.

*Sixth.* That all gynæcologists should not consider it their duty to attempt this work, which constitutes a distinct and

comprehensive branch of surgical science.

*Seventh.* That all physicians should be more thoroughly trained to appreciate the existence of conditions demanding the care of a specialist, and should be more disinterested in referring such early to the proper sources for help.—Fullerton, *Woman's Med. Jour.*

**KUMYSS, FROM KUMYSGEN.**—A woman 25 years of age, had suffered for two weeks from anomalous chilly sensations, followed by flushes, malaise, headache, and, at times, a little nose-bleed. Her bowels had a tendency to looseness. Four or five months previously she had suffered from typhoid fever, and, as she expressed herself, "felt just as if she were going to have the fever again." When first visited her pulse was 108 and temperature 102 degrees. She had been sick, vomited, had a severe headache, felt very heated and thirsty, and had considerable abdominal tenderness. The pain was not seated in the right iliac fossa, but was in the neighborhood of the umbilicus. There had been some kind of a rash upon her body during the preceding week, but, upon inspection, no rose-colored spots could be detected. She also complained of pain in the right side of the chest, but nothing abnormal was revealed by physical examination. On the next day she was somewhat better; the bowels were not opened and the tongue was very dirty. She continued to improve for several days, when she arose from her bed and ate imprudently, and was again attacked by sickness and pain. This patient was disposed to be unruly, but after the second recurrence of symptoms denoting intestinal irritation, presumably in Peyer's patches, she became more obedient. She was restricted for several days to a kumyss diet, when soft articles of food were permitted, the bill of fare was gradually enlarged, and there was no further recurrence.—Shoemaker, *Med. Bulletin.*

**URETHRECTOMY FOR OBSTINATE STRICTURE.**—In the *N. E. Med. Monthly* for March, Manley describes two cases of urethral stricture in which urethrectomy was performed, the affected tissues being removed *en bloc*. A whalebone filiform

bougie was utilized as a guide, and the operation performed as follows :

"First, an incision running diagonally to the long axis of the body was made, through dense scirrhus tissue, until the guide was reached, when a linear incision was made in either direction through the stricture, which was but little more than one centimetre in length.

"When this was laid widely open, it was freely tunneled out from below, by cutting away a furrow through the calloused urethra, the convexity of which, was above, with its base below.

"A No. 12 catheter was now passed through, and the entire passage flushed, after which it was removed, and the urethra permitted to remain empty. The flow of the urethra was now reconstructed, by approximating the peri-urethral tissues from below, the structures from within out being replaced by three rows of catgut-sutures.

RESUME.—(a) "It seems then, from the foregoing, that in all cases of traumatic rupture of the perineal urethra, the tissues should be laid open at as early a date as possible ; and the continuity of the lumen of the urethra should be then entirely restored by a urethrorrhaphy.

(b) "In those urethral perineal fistulæ which resist dilatation or other tentative measures, regardless as to whether they are of a traumatic or blenorrhagic origin, they should be resected; and continuity restored in the passage by homologous approximation of the separated edges, the hiatus remaining being obliterated, through linear elongation of the fibres of the muscular coat.

(c) "With those strictures rebellious to tentative methods, not appropriate for internal urethrotomy or divulsion, when they are divided by an external incision, the occasion should be utilized to hew a gutter through the cicatricial tissue; and to reconstruct the floor of the canal with the adjacent connective tissues.

(d) "In all cases the most rigorous asepsis should be employed; and the aim, in every case, should be to secure non-suppurative, primary union.

"I am particularly desirous in this report to state, that though the operations here reported are the first of the kind performed in America, I am solely indebted to Dr. Wile for being the first who de-

monstrated the principles of them to me, gave me the inspiration, and assured me of its success."

DESQUAMATIVE ENTERITIS.—The treatment consists in absolute rest in bed, a cheerful room with hygienic surroundings, and fresh air; while careful avoidance of purgatives cannot be too strongly insisted upon. Outward applications, such as blisters, iodine, etc., are of little or no value.

The diet should be so regulated as to prevent as much as possible the formation of fæces; and therefore such articles of food as bread, eggs, coarse-grained vegetables, etc., should be avoided. Stimulants are hurtful.

The drug in which one would place the greatest reliance is opium. The intestinal tract, being in a state of inflammation and over-distension from the accumulation of a large column of fæces, requires rest; while an easy action of the bowels may be obtained by means of enemata of tepid water, or of a one per cent. solution of sodium chloride. Such enemata are especially indicated when the membranes occlude the whole intestinal canal, as frequently happens. A prolonged warm full bath is often successful in relieving distressing symptoms.

Dr. John Williams advocates the administration of liquor arsenicalis, in drop doses, for a long time.

Friction of warm olive oil to the abdomen is certainly helpful. A flannel roller, eight or ten inches wide, may be worn round the abdomen, and affords support and comfortable warmth to the intestines.—Light, in *The Practitioner*.

TINCTURE OF IRON FOR BURNS.—At the earliest possibility after the occurrence, apply the tincture of iron over the surface of the burn with a feather or soft brush, so as to moisten it everywhere. Where the cuticle is not destroyed and removed it should be used full strong; if the cuticle is gone and the surface raw, dilute with water one-half or two-thirds. How prompt the relief from pain is after the application no one can tell save one who has tried it. In scalds and superficial burns the immediate application will not only allay the pain but prevent blistering. There is a character-



istic feature connected with burns that deserves consideration, and that is the tendency to too much and too long continued suppuration—to become chronic and to continue indefinitely. Old sores from burns have usually been hard to cure. For the relief of this kind of traumatism the proper course to pursue is to prepare and use a salve in the following way: Take of vaseline or lard one ounce, of tincture of iron one drachm, more or less, combine the two by rubbing together either in a mortar or in a plate or saucer with a knife or spatula. Spread this salve thinly upon a soft cloth and apply to the entire raw surface; this will soon diminish the flow from the raw surface and cause it to heal rapidly.—E. F. Starr, *Atlanta M. & S. Jour.*

#### FOR IRRITABLE COUGH:—

R. Acidi hydrocyanici diluti . . . 3iss  
Morphine acetatis . . . . . gr. iss  
Mucilaginis acacie . . . . . 3j  
Syrupi pruni virginiane . . . 3iv  
Aque ad . . . . . 3vj

Misce et fiat mistura. A teaspoonful to be sipped every four or six hours.

#### FOR PSORIASIS:—

R. Acidi chrysophanici . . . . . 3ij  
Liquoris gutta percha . . . . 3ij

Misce. Paint the solution over the affected parts; and when it is dry apply flexible collodion over surface.

#### COLLODION FOR GOUTY JOINTS:—

R. Morphine acetatis . . . . . gr. xx  
Acidi salicylici . . . . . 3ij  
Ætheris  
Collodii flexilis, . . . . . aa 3vij

Misce. To be applied to the painful joint.

#### FOR CHRONIC BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA:—

R. Ammonii carbonatis . . . . . gr. iv  
Tincturæ scillæ . . . . . mxx  
Spiritus ætheris . . . . . mxx  
Tincturæ nucis vomicæ . . . . mxx  
Infusi serpentariæ ad . . . . 3j

Misce et fiat mistura. Two tablespoonfuls every six hours.

#### A VALUABLE COUNTER-IRRITANT IN DISEASES OF THE CHEST:—

Aceti cantharidis . . . . . 3ij  
Spiriti camphoræ ad . . . . 3j

Misce et fiat linimentum. Apply to the chest at bedtime until redness is produced.

—The Practitioner.

LANGERMANN reports very unfavorably on tuberculocidin; fresh tubercular invasions taking place during its administration.

IN the *Woman's Medical Journal* for February is reported the case of a child, 18 months old, who suddenly refused food, failed, became restless and sleepless. There was no nausea except when feeding was forced.

For no particular reason except impulse, the doctor ordered olive oil. The fourth spoonful brought up a red clover blossom, and the child at once recovered.

THYMACETINE has been tried by de Montyel, who found that it increased muscular force, elevated the temperature about 1° C. for two hours, hastened respiration, increased pulse-rate and arterial tension, and this was followed by lassitude. It also caused thirst, warmth in the stomach, nausea, desire to urinate, and a bitter taste. In large doses the effects were more marked and unpleasant.

ON THE ACTION OF APIOLINE.—Dr. Pelletan. (Paris), in his clinical notes on apioline, states that the drug administered in spherical capsules of 20 centigrammes each, has proved in his hands a true stimulating emmenagogue, acting directly on the ovaries and uterus or the ends of the nerves contained in them by irritation of the mucous membrane during its elimination through the utricular glands and by producing hyperæmia of the ovaries during the circulation through them; the pain in spasmodic or congestive dysmenorrhœa is thereby relieved.

It is moreover indicated in atonic amenorrhœa, when the uterus and the ovaries are primarily at fault and the involution is not due alone to anæmia.

In fact, in all cases amenable to internal remedies, where a correct diagnosis of the symptoms had been made and suitable hygiene and treatment observed, he found apioline relieved the suppression, regulated the catamenia and prevented or removed the accompanying pain and proved to be a most powerful emmenagogue.